

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a compact, light, inexpensive reflection type liquid crystal projector optical unit or reflection type liquid crystal projector which provides high brightness without contrast deterioration caused by light leakage associated with black image display. The unit or projector uses, as a polarizer/analyzer for a reflection liquid crystal panel, a reflection polarizing plate which functions as a polarizing plate by its grating function only in a specific direction. It also uses an auxiliary polarizer and an absorption auxiliary analyzer. Their reflection axis or absorption axis is adjusted according to the characteristic of the reflection liquid crystal panel so as to minimize light leakage associated with black image display.